THE MEDICAL FORTNIGHTLY

Vol. XXXVIII ST. LOUIS, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1910. No. 5

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LEADING ARTICLES

THE HYGIENE OF SCHOOL LIFE.

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CHICAGO, ILL.

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Three are two ways of looking at the hygiene of school life, collectively and individually.

The grave matter of sending a child to school is a very serious undertaking, and attended with a good deal of responsibility. The matter of proper hygiene of a child during its developing period is by no means a simple problem, even where there is an abundance of wealth to meet all requirements, as in the homes of the wealthy, but to meet these same requirements in that aggregation of individual units which go to make up the modern school must tax the best knowledge of the wisest students of child physiology.

The public schools of today represent a clearing house for all contagious and communicable disorders of early life; here from all parts of the community the pupils unwittingly bring the various infections from their different localities and distribute them among their fellows with a generosity characteristic of our boasted public institutions.

This is so well recognized that the lay mind has almost ceased to struggle with the problem of preventing the spread of the recognized contagious disorders of early life throughout the community by means of the common school. To be sure some effort has been made to lessen the extension of the old germ-carrying and incubation apparatus by substituting for the old fashioned slate with its sponge eraser, the paper tab and individual pencil, but the prevention of such grave infections as measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria and influenza have been considered as beyond the power of the ordinary school-board. Some effort has been made in the modern school-room to lessen the evils of lowered vitality and slow poisoning by foul air and the absence of sunlight, through improved methods of ventilation and lighting, but still one has but to enter the average crowded school-room in the middle of a session to demonstrate to his entire satisfaction the inutility of most of the methods in vogue to remedy these evils.

Each public school building should be provided with a system of heating and ventilation which would give every pupil plenty of pure air at the proper temperature and without injurious draughts.

Apart from the acquirement of disease, it is well known that many children enter the pubilc school at the risk of permanent impairment of many important physical functions; their sight, for instance, is not infrequently impaired beyond remedy by improper arrangement of light in the school-room.

Squint is very often produced in the school-room. During the period of incomplete development any muscular abnormality is most easily prevented or overcome. Should there be any tendency to squint all toys and forms of amusements that call into use the accommodation should be taken away. I refer now particularly to kindergarten pupils. Let wagons, hobbyhorses, balloons and large toys be substituted for picture books, paper dolls and games that require close observation. In fact it is wiser to keep the child out of the kindergarten, where he can be kept out of doors and his general health guarded. I feel that a word of warning should be raised against putting puny and ill-nourished children in kindergarten. The prolonged concentration on near objects at the period of most rapid development is unnatural and may permanent-

ly injure not only the eyes but the general health. Such children would be infinitely better off running in the fields or parks, although the care of the parents might be more arduous.

Full free respiration and all that depends upon this most important physical function may be permanently crippled by malposition due to unhygienic furniture and the vitiated atmosphere of the school-room. Permanent deformities of the spinal column, as well as of the extremities may result from the same cause. Spinal curvature may result from the desk being too low, and the wrong posture being taken while attending school.

There are different forms of curvature, forward and backward, sideways, or as it is often called, lateral curvature, and a form called rotolateral curvature, because the spine is bent sideways and at the same time is rotated on itself. By pressure on the ligaments, cartilage and bone absorption takes place. The bone, composing the spinal column, may break down and abscesses form, or may become united to each other, forming what is known as ankylosis of the spine. The spinal nerves may be pressed upon, causing all manner of diseases, fits, convulsions, indigestion, dim sight, disease of the heart, liver, kidneys, in fact any organ fed by the nerve pressed upon may be disorganized in function, so that it is very important to find out very early if any spinal curvature be present, and this is often difficult to do, for the curvature may be very slight at first, but will grow worse if a proper spinal support is not worn.

The effort to make the hygiene of a school-room based upon the average requirements of a composite of the pupils of a certain age, must ever prove a failure when applied to the requirements of the individual pupil. The individual peculiarities as to vision, hearing and physical endurance will present so many variations from the average composite, that the physical wrecks resulting are sad commentaries upon our present school-room hygiene. It is not enough that the tax imposed for the so-called education of children should be the risk of permanent physical impairment or even the sacrifice of life itself, but even graver dangers beset the path of the irresponsible pupil. I refer to the lack of intelligent methods in the adaptation of the subjects to be studied to the mental and physical condition of the individual student.

A false idea of economy gives the guidance of three score children temporarily into the hands of one teacher regardless of lindividuality or idiosyncrasy. No one teacher is wise enough to develop all these little minds by giving to each, opportunities truly educational, that is, by drawing out and developing the capabilities of each individual. The obvious hopelessness of the undertaking results in the well known uniform process of cramming as much as possible of so-called knowledge in the brains of three score helpless pupils. Completion of the prescribed curriculum is the dissideratum of that grade. When this is accomplished the pupils are advanced en masse to the grade next higher and a similar process repeated, the different grades forming by years so many steps from the primary department to the high school.

If the contemplation of the physical wrecks before mentioned due to the malhygiene of the school-room is sad, how much sadder is the spectacle apparent to all close observers of the mental and nervous wrecks of this unnatural method of wholesale education. Every intelligent parent knows that the different children in his large family must require different management, according to their individual peculiarities, physical, psychical, and temperamental. That the aforesaid intelligent parent should surrender his judgment entirely, the moment his children enter the public schools, is past comprehension.

The proposition that all children of a given age must follow the same inflexible curriculum, is an absurdity unworthy of refutation. The crowning glory of the human unit, is his individuality, and I am not too bold in claiming that the utmost energy displayed in our graded school system appears to be in line of repressing that individuality to a level with the average composite. That distorted mentality should be a common result is not to be wondered at.

A new declaration of independence is long past due, with regard to helpless infancy and childhood. Every child is born in this country with certain inalienable rights. The first is life and opportunity to develop all that pertains to his future well-being. No so-called educational system should deprive him of the privileges of good hygiene and protection from the infectious diseases and mal-development. He is entitled to protection from mental tasks unsuited to his mental capacity. I boldly assert that there is not a single child who has attended the public schools three years or more who has not acquired some physical, nervous or mental defect which could have been prevented.

You ask what is the remedy for the fla-

grant abuses to which the child is subjected according to our modern school system. The teacher is not wholly to blame, simply for the reason that false ideas of economy have over burdened each teacher with an absurdly large number of pupils.

The want of space prevents me from going into this subject to the extent it deserves, so in conclusion I will make a few suggestions, which if universally put into practice would greatly lessen the existing evils.

First.—The Board of Education in each municipality and township should employ a physician in the same manner that teachers are employed and assign to him certain duties. The physician thus employed should be a man or woman of the highest ability and attainments, not as a dispenser of pills and powders, but as a teacher and trainer of the young in everything that makes a stronger, healthier and more perfect manhood and womanhood. Every child when it enters school should be subjected to the most thorough and searching physical examination by the medical director, who should be fully qualified to detect any and all imperfections in either the structure or functions of all parts of the body. The physician should be provided with all the necessary scientific appliances for making such examinations, and with the apparatus necessary to correct the deficiencies when found.

He should visit each school to which he was assigned once every school day and examine every pupil referred to him by any teacher. He should, at least once during every school year, examine every pupil, to learn whether any physical or mental defect exists, a record being kept from year to year of each pupil's growth and development, advising them concerning the method employed to detect the first signs of the appearance of communicable diseases, and presenting the recognized measures for the protection of health and prevention of disease. Moreover, every child should be compelled to pass a medical examination before passing from one grade to another.

Second.—The physician should be in conference with the board of directors, which implies of course that even in the country districts a physician should be a member of every board of directors.

Third.—Through the teachers, who should be educated in school hygiene, the pupils should be taught how to take care of their bodies to preserve them free from pain and disease throughout long, active, useful lives.

They should be taught the value and necessity of pure air, and how to breathe aright, as well as the vital importance of the plentiful use of pure water. This is necessary. Among other duties of the medical director it would be to see that the drinking water in schools was always pure.

Students should be instructed in the principles of dietetics, how to eat, what to eat, when to eat, to make the strongest, healthiest and most enduring minds and bodies.

They should be instructed in the vital principles of sex physiology and the importance of physical purity and cleanliness. In fact students in our public schools should be given thorough and practical instruction in all the laws of health and life.

Fourth.—The mentality of each child should be carefully studied, and no child should be promoted to a higher grade without a certificate from the teacher and medical director.

Fifth.—Large school buildings should have elevators or else place the younger children in upper rooms. for stair climbing is less injurious to children between 6 and 9, than to those between 9 and 15.

Sixth.—Every school building should have a well equipped gymnasium, for the training and development of every pupil, and the physical exercise should be graduated to the age of the pupil. A child of four can stand more exercise than one at ten years of age.

Seventh.—Each city school building at least should be provided also with a bath house, where plain and Turkish baths can be given as embodying the perfection of bathing for cleanliness and bath.

Eighth.—There should be in our schools a special department for either physical or mental subnormals.

Ninth.—Elective courses are advisable and should be strongly encouraged. They are more expensive, it is true, but are much better. One-half day's session properly conducted is far better than all-day session improperly conducted.

It may be very difficult to accomplish all that I have recommended, yet it would be easy and inexpensive compared with the immense good which would result. If this were done the utility of the present public school system would be more than double, and the health, usefulness, efficiency and length of life of the next generation most wonderfully increased.

As Dr. A. L. Woods, has said, the hope of the future rests with, and depends upon the children of the present, and it is education that must do the work of making them the strong, healthy, active, energetic, useful

and long-lived men and women which they are capable of becoming under a proper system of training and education. I do not mean the education of reading, arithmetic, geography, grammar, etc.; that is already provided for, and, important and necessary as it is, it is not as important to the future welfare of the race as a thorough knowledge of the structure, uses, care and development of the different organs and parts of the most wonderful piece of machinery in existence—the human body. In words of the poet—

"Know thyself, presume not God to scan,
The greatest study of mankind is man."

The time to study man is in childhood, the place is the public school.

PROCREATION LAWS.

G. HENRI BOGART, M. D.

BROOKVILLE, IND.

Quantity in production has come to mean less than quality, not "how much," but "how good," and yet we have been wondering why the human race does not improve, and why the horrible burdens of crime, pauperism, and weakness are gaining ground faster, far faster than population.

The Burbanks have wrought miracles in vegetation, and any of us older fellows who remembers the "hazel splitter" hogs of a quarter century back, can hardly class them with the four footed food storage machines of today's pig sties.

Human animals, however have managed to run along in the same old way, though medical prophylaxis, juvenile courts, reformatories and kindred attempts to raise the standard have been worked overtime; indeed these elements are the principal cause of the abnormal increase of the "Burden of Feeblemindedness" since we have set aside the law of the survival of the fittest, in preserving the weaklings, whom natural selection would have removed, ere they became parents.

Clearly, it is as impossible, as it is undesirable, to select the best stock and use them as breeders of the race in the same manner as has accomplished such wonderful results with the pigs and cattle.

Indiana was the first commonwealth in the world to meet this matter with a sane, safe, and sure operation, when on the 9th of March, 1907, her legislature, after ten years refusal, finally passed a procreation law.

This law, which I shall quote, made a big sensation and inquiries are still flowing in from all the civilized world, and the three states of California, Connecticut and Utah have adopted similar measures, as has Ontario.

The operation is vasectomy, not a very definite term, since it may be construed to mean the cutting of any vessel. Then, too, the operation is so relatively new, that it is very doubtful if any of the reader's texts on surgery, will even mention it.

To operate one squeezes the spermatic cord up against the skin of the scrotum, and after a slight incision, lifts the cord and snips off the vas deferens, being careful not to bruise or injure the other members of the cord. This vas deferens conveys the spermatazoa and orchitic fluid from the testicles to the seminal vesicles, and after its section the fluid is poured into the scrotum and reabsorbed, and the subject, with his sexual powers and desires in no wise impaired is sterile. The operation requires about three minutes for the expert, and is so slight that no anesthetic, either local or general, is used.

In the female the operation is somewhat more difficult, as the abdominal cavity must be opened so as to reach the Fallopian tubes. Sterilization by occlusion of the vas is common; gonorrhea closes it, as does bruises. Hence we find among the Klamuck Tartars a national condition of polyandria, all the brothers of a family being husbands to the others' wives, and among the other race of nomadic horsemen, the Guachos of South America, we find male prostitution. The men are "tunked" by hard riding.

The Reformatory, at Jeffersonville, Indiana, is sterilizing about 25 per cent of its inmates, and there has not been a single untoward incident to mar a list of over 500 operations.

The prevention of the birth of those who are sure to prove burdens to themselves and to the race, is one of the greatest steps in the elevation of humanity ever devised. Legislation along these lines will come up before most of our law-making bodies in the near future, and the burden of knowledge will necessarily lie with the medical men.

As I have acted as press agent, as it were, in this matter and am much interested in it I have presented the three most distinctive laws on the question, and will endeavor to point out those elements which have shown both the good and the bad features in the light of experience.

The Indiana law made the appointment of a medical board for each institution obligatory, and then left the recommenda-

tions to a lay board of managers, and as a result, several of them have no operations.

In assisting Dr. J. Foebes Godfrey, of the Ontario parliament, in the preparation of his bill, I eliminated this bad feature, and left the matter solely in the hands of the medical men and to remove the possible stigma, that the surgeons might operate for the sake of the fee, we provided that it should be paid for the examination. Both these laws are faulty in specifying "rapists."

If these persons are to be operated on, vasectomy is not the remedy, since desire and accomplishment are not interefered with, and castration would prove the only safeguard to the community.

Dr. F. E. Daniel, of Austin, Texas, is quoted as a pioneer in G. Stanley Hall's monumental work on Adolescence, along this line. This remedy for the rape fiend, is the complete removal of the external genitalia. The imperial palace employs about 2,000 enuchs, who are thus operated upon, with an average fatality of 3 per cent, quife low when considering that it is performed with erude Oriental surgery.

In Indiana the law is construed as applying only to the larger institutions, and we are unable to get to the many masturbators and imbeciles in our poorhouses.

The operation is of vast benefit to the masturbator.

The orchitic fluid is Brown-Sequard's "Elixir of Life" and if retained and reabsorbed, the terrible drain on the vitality of the victim of the habit is stopped.

The Connecticut law is weak, in that it only applies to three of its institutions, but is very strong in the full and general character of the selective provisions, describing subjects for the operation. This bill, too, is good, in that it confines the operation to legitimate cases, though I would suggest that it does not allow sufficient latitude to the profession.

My idea of the best that can be done in the line of a procreation law would be to take the preamble and first section of the Ontario law, and to substitute the second paragraph of the first section of the Connecticut law for the second section, then to slightly widen the scope of the second section of the same bill, and add it. In our state, owing to the old time dread of an abdominal operation, one of the gentlemen, a doctor who voted with us, managed to throw so much scare into the senate, as to the gravity of female operation, that we have not been able to overcome it as yet, while the Connecticut law plainly specifies the Fallopian section, but then again the latter bill is weak, in that by this very specific action it precludes castration of rapists, which either of the other bills would allow.

The medical profession must come to the fore in this matter, whether pro or con.

Dr. Harry Sharpe, for many years surgeon of the Indiana Reformatory, used this operation for ten years during which time we were seeking to get the measure enacted into a law (having to confine himself to cases wherein he could get the written consent of the subject), and there has not been a single untoward accident to mar the history of the work, nor has any man lost any time from his regular vocation; he simply climbs down off the chair, and goes back to work, the opening being closed with a drop of collodion.

Dr. Sharp is really the father of the operation, as a prevention of bad heredities, and should be recognized as such.

One more point: In coition the vasectomized man ejaculates a semen at orgasm, though the fluid is sterile.

INDIANA LAW.

Whereas, Heredity plays a most important part in the transmission of crime, idiocy and imbecility;

Therefore, be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That on and after the passage of this act, it shall be compulsory for each and every institution of the state entrusted with the care of confirmed criminals, idiots, rapists and imbeciles, to appoint on its staff, in addition to the regular institutional physician, two skilled surgeons of recognized ability, whose duty it shall be, in conjunction with the chief physician of the institution, to examine the mental and physical of such inmates as are recommended by the institutional physician and the board of managers.

If in the judgment of this committee of experts and the board of managers, procreation is inadvisable, and there is no probability of the improvement of the mental condition of the inmate, it shall be lawful for the surgeons to perform such operation for the prevention of procreation, as shall be decided safest and most effective. But this operation shall not be performed, excepting cases that have been pronounced unimprovable; provided, that in no case shall the consultation fee be more than three dollars to each expert, to be paid out of the funds appropriated for the maintenance of such institution.

March 9th, 1907.

CONNECTICUT LAW.

The directors of the State prison and the superintendents of the hospitals for the insane at Middletown and Norwich are hereby authorized and directed to appoint for each of said institutions, respectively, two skilled surgeons who in conjunction with the physician or surgeon in charge of each of said institutions, shall constitute a board, the duty of which shall be to examine such inmates of such institutions as are reported to them by the warden superintendent or surgeon in charge, to be persons by whom procreation would be inadvisable.

Such board shall examine the physical and mental condition of such persons and their record, and family history, so far as the same can be ascertained, and if in the judgment of a majority of such board, procreation by any such person, would produce children with an inherited tendency to crime, insanity, feeblemindedness, idiocy or imbecility and that there is no probability that the condition of such person so examined will improve to that extent as to render procreation by such person advisable, or if the physical or mental condition of such person will be substantially improved, thereby, then the said board shall appoint one of its members to perform the operation of vasectomy or oophorectomy, as the case may be upon such person. Such operation shall be performed in a safe and humane manner and the board making such examination, and the surgeon performing such operation shall receive from the state such compensation, as the warden of the State prison, or the superintendent of either of such hospitals shall deem reasonable.

Sec. 2. Except as authorized by this act, every person who shall perform, encourage, assist in or otherwise promote the performance of either of the operations described in Sec. 1 of this act, for the purpose of destroying the power to procreate the human species, or any person who shall knowingly permit either of these operations to be performed upon such person, unless the same shall be a medical necessity, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned in the state's prison not more than five years, or both.

Approved August 12, 1910.

ONTARIO, CANADA.

Whereas, Heredity plays a most important part in the transmission of criminal instincts;

Therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative assembly of the Province of Ontario enact as follows:

(1) The govern ng body of every institution in which confirmed criminals, idiots, imbeciles and rapists may be confined, in addition to the regular institutional physician, shall appoint two skilled surgeons of recognized ability, whose duty it shall be, in conjunction with the chief physician of the said institution, to examine such inmates as the chief physician may recommend as to their mental and physical condition.

(2) If in the judgment of such surgeons procreation by any such inmate is not advisable, and there is no probability of improving his mental condition, the surgeon shall perform such operation on the inmate for the prevention of procreation, as they may deem most safe and effectual.

(3) For every consultation as to the condition of an inmate of any such institution, the surgeons concerned shall be entitled to a fee of not more than $3, to be payable out of the funds appropriated for the maintenance of the institution.

February 25, 1910.

A Pith-Ball Manometer.—Nathaniel Fedde, New York, describes a manometer made by placing a pith-ball in a tube, which is moved by the current of air communicated by the pulse wave, the air being compressed by the wave. The instrument is compact, portable, costs little, and is easy to read.—Medical Record.

Vital Statistics of Minneapolis.—During the month of June, 1910, the deaths from all causes numbered 309, in an estimated population of 310,000, corresponding to an annual death rate of 9.72 in a thousand of population. The average death rate for the year 1909 was 11.58. The deaths of children under five years of age numbered 80;41 under one year of age, and 39 between one and five. There were 21 still births, 14 males and 7 females.

Fistula in Ano; Excision and Suture.—E. C. Beck, New York, advocates for the treatment of fistula in ano a new method of procedure, which will obtain a cure in a short time, the patient being allowed to go home on the seventh day, and being well in two weeks. To the usual splitting open of the fistula he adds the dissection of the scar tissue that has formed along the track of the fistula , and which prevents healing. The wound is then carefully sutured in its entirety, and the bowels kept from moving for four days.—Medical Record.

SELECTED ARTICLE

SOME OBJECTIONABLE AND UNUSUAL CHINESE DRUGS IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES.†

ALBERT SCHNEIDER.

I. INTRODUCTION.

Many of the ways of the Chinese impress us as being peculiar. This certainly applies to their practice of pharmacy and medicine, as has been more fully explained elsewhere.* The quantity and variety of Chinese drugs imported into the United States via San Francisco is very great and is apparently wholly out of proportion to the reasonable needs of the sick of the Chinese population of the United States. It is, however, probable that said drugs are not all used by the Chinese. Within recent years many of the Chinese doctors are making very persistent efforts to extent their practice among Americans, as is evidenced by their extensive advertising in the daily papers and their use of large painted poster ads in the larger cities of the Pacific Coast, especially in San Francisco and Los Angeles. The special features of their medical advertising are the claims that they use harmless herbs only, that they cure without the use of the knife, and that their superior medication is the result of the accumulated experiences of many centuries. Their American patrons are from the ranks of the uneducated, the easily beguiled, those who are easily humbugged, those who are after something new. Most of the patients are women, although there are also men who visit these Oriental doctors. It may be also stated that the advertising Chinese doctors belong to the better class, judged from the Chinese viewpoint. From the viewpoint of Western scientific medicine they are mere charlatans. It is also a fact that most of the advertising Chinese doctors belong to the old school, which is wholly without scientific foundation. Chinese doctors, who are graduates of the Western schools of medicine, do not advertise as the universally recognized code of ethics of the regular schools of medicine does not permit it.

The old school Chinese doctors or herbalists claim to use some three thousand different herbs of tried value, besides many minerals and drugs of animal origin. Some of the latter are very unusual as well as nauseous, and highly objectionable for sanitary reasons. This paper will, it is hoped, serve to point out the possible dangers which may lurk in certain Chinese drug imports. It is a fact that the Chinese have no true conception of Western sanitation or of disinfection and safeguarding against infections and contagious diseases. The occurrence of smallpox, plague, cholera and other dangerous infectious diseases, is chronic throughout the Chinese empire, and every effort should be made to prevent the importation of articles which may serve as carriers and disseminators of the abovenamed infections. The publication of the partial list of offensive drugs will, it is hoped, tend to discourage those who show such a decided preference for Chinese doctors and their medicines.

It is further hoped that a fuller knowledge of these articles will bring about enactments prohibiting the importation of undoubtedly objectionable drug articles.

The list of so-called remedies is given in alphabetical order, according to common English names, numbered consecutively for convenience of cross reference.

* * * * * * * * *

It must also be explained that the drugs cited are mostly crude. Thus far it could not be ascertained to what extent these articles, in powdered or other form, occur in compound powders, in pills, in tablets, in plasters, in liquors, in aquae, etc., prepared and prescribed by the Chinese doctors. With increasing experience, the writer is less and less willing to make organoleptic tests of the Chinese pills, powders, tablets, compound teas, etc., submitted for entry at the San Francisco port, because one may never know what particular nauseous ingredient may be present. The writer has also been cautioned by Chinese friends against the promiscuous sampling of drugs, it being declared that some are "very potent."

Some of the packages containing certain of the offensive drugs actually swarm with insect life, and absolutely no attempt is made to isolate these packages from those which contain harmless drugs or even food materials that may be included in the same box or bale.

A few of the more offensive Chinese drugs were examined bacteriologically in the laboratory of the U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, San Francisco, and it was reported that they were sterile as far as the presence of pathogenic or otherwise dangerous germs was concerned, excepting the somewhat doubtful finding of a single colon bacillus in one of the articles. Even though the particular

* Chinese Drugs and Medicine in San Francisco. Pacific Pharmacist, II; 196-204. Notes on the Chinese Materia Medica of San Francisco. Proc. A. Ph. A. LVII; 852-858. 1909.

†Reprinted from the Pacific Pharmacist, July, 1910.

samples examined appeared to be harmless and sterile, that is absolutely no indication that other samples are also harmless. The following diseases could no doubt be introduced in the following so-called drugs, presented for entry at the Port of San Francisco:

1. Bubonic plague in rats' dung and fleas. Whether or not the plague can be imported through these sources is questioned. We can nevertheless ill afford to take chances.

2. Asiatic cholera in human feces.

3. Intestinal disease, including typhoid fever, in human feces and other similar filth.

4. Skin disease in animal hides.

5. Smallpox in a variety of articles which have been in contact with individuals having smallpox or just recovering from an attack. Smallpox epidemics occur sporadically throughout the Chinese empire.

Animals, dried and pickled; bones and tissues, animal skins and hides, carry various parasites causative of systematic as well as local diseases, unless such articles are thoroughly sterilized or disinfected, which the Chinese certainly do not do, as far as can be ascertained.

The following germs of diseases and other causes of disease are always passed in the stools of those suffering from the diseases; typhoid fever, Asiatic cholera, amebic dysentery, bacillary dysentery, intestinal tuberculosis, bubonic plague, cholera infantum, anthrax, smallpox, measles, scarlet fever and chicken-pox. The larvae and eggs of tape-worm, pin-worm, hook-worm, etc., occur in the stools. Urine carries pathogenic germs and their spores, besides other disease producers.

With these introductory remarks we shall cite a partial list of the more offensive articles submitted for entry at the port of San Francisco, hoping that the report may influence the members of the American Pharmaceutical Association to frame resolutions recommending that the importation of offensive, putrid and otherwise objectionable drugs be stopped.

II. ALPHABETICAL LIST OF UNUSUAL OR NAUSEOUS CHINESE DRUGS PRESENTED FOR ENTRY AT THE PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO.

(1) Alligators' Scales. Shan kea me.

Used medicinally, but in what manner is not explained. Scales imported in considerable quantity.

(2) Alligator's Hide. Shan kea.

Alligator's skin and muscle attached is imported for medicinal use. Cut into strips about ten to fourteen inches long and dried. Medicinal use not ascertained.

(3) Armadillo Skin.

Said to be used medicinally, but just how could not be ascertained. Not seen or recognized.

(4) Asses Glue. O Keaou. Luh Keaou.

A glue made from the hide of various animals, but especially the ass. To make the glue especially efficacious the animals must have obtained their drinking water from a certain well in the Shantung Province, hence the Shantung glue brings the highest price. This glue is essentially a woman's remedy, and is used almost solely in diseases of women. Astringent, sedative and tonic properties are ascribed to it.

(5) Barley Sprouts. Mei ya.

Used as a stomachic and as food. Imported in small amounts.

(6) Sprouting Rice. Kuh ya.

Is similarly used. Given to children to relieve the symptoms of overeating.

(7) Cow Bezoar. New hwang.

Concretions found in the gall bladder of the cow. Used as a sedative and tonic, in ulcers, inflammations. External application with camphor. Imported in considerable quantity. Expensive.

(8) Bats' Dung. Yay ming sha.

The undigested parts (especially the eyes) of insects, such as flies, eaten by bats. These particles are carefully picked from the dung. Used as a decoction in the treatment of inflamed eyes. Boil one-half ounce in a cupful of water, strain and drink this amount once daily until cured. Imported in small amounts.

(9) Beetles. Tang lang.

Resemble the rhinoceros beetle of India. Dried, powdered and used in plasters for sores, ulcers, etc. Not seen in the entire State.

(10) Biche de mere. Hae san.

A marine sea slug or holothurian. Used as food and reputed to have aphrodisiac or tonic properties. There appears to be considerable confusion as regards the Chinese terms applying to remedies which serve as general tonics and those which have aphrodisiac properties. The general belief that the Chinese use aphrodisiacs very extensively is strongly denied by good Chinese authorities, who state that the misunderstanding is due to the fact that the Chinese name for "tonic" is often wrongly interpreted as "aphrodisiac." Imported.

(11) Boa Constrictor Skins. Num shea pe. Foo shea pe.

The dried skin is used externally, applied to sores, ulcers, etc. Useful in rheumatism. Imported.

(12) Buffalo Horns. Gu kak.

Used to same extent as a medicine in blood troubles. Not seen.

(13) Carrion Beetles. Tang lang. Tumble bugs. Tumble Dung.

A black beetle of the Scarabaeidae (Coprobius), not unlike our tumble bug. Odor very strong. Imported. Medicinal use not ascertained.

(14) Dragon Fly. Tang lang.

Used as a general tonic and in the treatment of genito-urinary diseases.

(15) Cantharides. Red, green and ordinary.

Used for blistering purposes. The red is not a Cantharid, it is Heuchys sanguinea (40). A species of Neuropteraus insect. Imported.

(16) Centipedes. Woo kung.

These are dried and neatly mounted upon bits of bamboo. Reduced to a powder. They are applied externally in venereal diseases, especially to primary and secondary syphilitic sores. Imported in small quantities.

(17) Chamois Horns. Ling yang.

The horns of a small species of antelope found on the plains of Mongolia. Used as a cooling medicine, particularly efficacious in inflammation of the lungs and the liver. The shavings (ling yang peen) are also imported. The Chinese consider the tip of the chamois horn the hardest substance in the world.

(18) Cicada Shells. Chen kho.

The cast-off shells of the cicada. A decoction is given to children in indigestion, convulsions, fever, etc. Considered a specific in cataract when given internally. Imported in large quantities.

(19) Cocoons. Sang peaou shaou.

Used medicinally in amenorrhea. Applied to sores, ulcers and boils. Imported.

(20) Old Copper Coins. Koo tung tseen.

Boiled in water to obtain the virdigris. Coins are also boiled in vinegar. Made into an ointment. Useful in skin diseases, dysentery, eye diseases, applied to sores, etc. The coin not seen.

(21) Cow Glue. New keaou. New pe keaou.

A glue made from cow hides, boiled and dissolved in warm water. Used in hemorrhages and in urinary disorders. Much used by the women as a tonic, taken on an empty stomach in the morning. Glues of various kinds are extensively imported.

(22) Cows' Horns. New kak sae.

The inner casing (marrow) of cows' horns. Boiled in sesamum oil and made into plasters, which are applied to sores and ulcers. A decoction is taken internally as a strengthening tonic or medicine.

(23) Cow Sinews. New kin.

Prepared and used like deer sinews. Deer and cow sinews are imported in considerable quantity.

(24) Crickets. Seih suh.

The fighting crickets are used, both male and female. A decoction is given for the purpose of purifying the blood, to cause boils to disappear and to hasten suppuration. Imported.

(25) Cuttlefish Bones. Woo tseh kuh.

The calcareous substance commonly known as cuttlefish bones is boiled. Said to have cooling properties; used in gonorrhea, as a vermifuge, in ulcers, boils, sores, burns, in diseases of the eye, hemorrhage, etc. Imported.

(26) Deer Horn Shavings. Luh keokeen.

Very thin, flexible, brittle shavings of the newly growing horn. Diaphoretic and stimulant. Given in nervous complaints. Extensively imported. Expensive.

(27) Deer Sinews. Luh kin.

Said to be boiled with eggs, shrimps and other food substances; taken by invalids as a great restorative tonic. Imported.

(28) Dragons' Bones. Lung kuh.

Fossil ivory, occurring in irregular pieces, weighing perhaps a few ounces. Ground to a fine powder; used in fever and ague, chorea and spermatorrhea.

(29) Dragons' Teeth. Lung ya.

Various substances are comprised under this name, as the fossil teeth of Stegodon sinensis and of S. orientalis (extinct elephants), horns of Calicotherium sinense, the teeth of Hyla sinensis, the molars of mastodons, elephants, sheep, teeth of hippotherium and perhaps of other animals, modern and extinct. Reduced to a powder and used as a restorative tonic, as a sedative or cordial. Imported.

(30) Earth Worms. Keuh shen.

Used as a vermifuge in colds and fevers, to relieve retention of urine; externally in the treatment of bits, sores, ulcers; in ear, eye and mouth troubles. Usually powdered and mixed with other substances.

(31) Eels Blood. Shen yu heue.

The eels are placed alive in cold water and gradually brought to the boiling temperature. They are then taken out and the long median tube containing the blood is removed and dried. Used in sunstroke. If the remedy is applied to the side of the face not affected it is said to give instant relief, and cause the face to assume its normal appearance. The fresh eels' blood is more efficacious than the dried. Also used in

ringworm, and in mouth, ear, eye and nose treatment. Not recognized.

(32) Egg Skins. Phoenix skins. Fung hwang e.

The egg skin lining the egg shell is removed immediately after the chicken is hatched. This is dried, powdered and mixed with safflower, ginseng and dates, and given in jaundice. Imported.

(33) Eggs of Silkworm. Tsan tsz.

The dried eggs of the silkworm are used in the treatment of smallpox. Not seen.

(34) Elpehant's Hide. Seang pe. Sai pe.

Use as an application to fresh cuts and wounds. Also used as a tonic. Only the shredded hide was seen (Cheow puay). Imported.

(35) Human Excrement. Jin hwang.

Dried in irregular pieces, cut into uneven cubes and formed into cakes the size of small ginger snaps. Apparently unprepared and unmixed with anything else, the natural odor being very pronounced in the samples thus far found. Samples examined bacteriologically in the laboratory of the U. S. Marine Hospital Service, San Francisco, gave negative results. Said to be useful for bites, burns, ulcers and to counteract poisons; useful in hemorrhages, fevers, dyspepsia, etc. Imported in small lots.

(36) Prepared Human Excrement. Jin chung hwang.

Equal parts of human excrement, licorice, bran and other ingredients, mixed decocted and rammed into hollow bamboo stems and the ends hermetically sealed; then boiled for a long time. According to some, no human excrement is added, but the mass in the bamboo is placed in the privy for a time, soaked in the mixture of feces and urine, then removed, dried and boiled as above. A sample examined by the laboratory of the U. S. Marine Hospital Service, San Francisco, was reported sterile. Imported.

(37) Fish Glue. Yu keaou.

Used medicinally and for glueing purposes. Imported.

(38) Fish Stomachs. Fish bellies. Yu tu.

The dried lower belly of several species of large fish, eaten and used as a tonic medicine. Not seen (?).

(39) Black Files.

Glossy black flies, somewhat larger than a bumblebee, resembling a wasp. Use not determined. Imported.

(40) Red Flies. Red blistering beetle. Heuchys sanguinea.

Not a blistering beetle. Properties and uses not ascertained. Imported.

(41) Pickled domestic fowl.

Plucked and prepared in some kind of brine. Odor bad, recalling the dissecting room.

(42) Frog Medicine. Tsan soo. Chan su.

Made from frogs and considered very useful in the treatment of catarrh, in intestinal troubles, worms, etc., as a diruetic, sedative, etc. Not seen.

(43) Dried Frogs. Tin gi.

Dried frogs (single, not in pairs), on bamboo frames, are imported. Use not determined.

(44) Burnt Ginger. Keung hon.

Common ginger burnt until almost wholly charred. Given as a last resort in fatal sickness. (Dr. Leung.) Imported in considerable quantity.

(45) Gizzard Membrane. Ke chun pe.

The lining membrane of the gizzard of the domestic fowl peeled off and dried. The membrane from the male fowl is used for female patients and vice versa. Used in dyspepsia, diarrhea, spermatorrhea and in urinary complaints. Practically identical with the Pelliculae stomachi galliae interiores of the London Pharmacopoeia (1721) and similar to the ingluvin of modern materia medica. Not seen.

(4) Hedgehog's Skin. Tsze wei pe.

The dried skin of the common hedgehog. The decoction is taken in pulmonary complaints. The powder in pills is taken for skin diseases. May carry skin diseases. Imported.

(47) Red Hematite. Chay shih.

Used as a cordial and tonic and as a pigment. Imported.

(48) Parasitized Insect Larvae. Tung Chung hae tsaou.

A peculiar nature freak. The larvae of the insects are attacked by a fungus and gradually killed. Finally the entire substance of the larvae is replaced by the mould tissue, retaining the exact form of the larvae. A spore bearing stripe develops from the head of what was originally the insect. Some years ago this freak excited considerable curiosity among botanists. Also obtained from Australia. Use not determined. Imported in considerable quantity.

(49) Insect Skins. Chen tuy.

Used medicinally. Imported in large quantities.

(50) Ivory Shavings. Seang ya seao.

Decocted. Cooling and tonic. Given to weakly children who have a tendency to spinal troubles. Not seen.

(51) Lizards. Peih hoo.

The common spotted house lizards of China. Dried, powdered and used as an ingredient in plasters for sores, ulcers, wounds, etc. They are very extensively

imported, neatly dried over a bamboo frame, always in pairs, male and female. The Chinese have great faith in the proper combination of the male and female principle (the yang and the yin). A tea is made by dipping the lizards in boiling water. The pair of lizards is thus used many times. Tonic properties are ascribed to this remedy.

(52) Dried Leeches. Shwuy chih.

Made into a decoction when required, either in water or Chinese gin or brandy and taken internally as a purgative. Also applied externally to bruises. Imported.

(53) Leek or Garlic Seeds. Kew tseae tsze.

Boiled in spirits and taken internally for rhemuatism, neuralgia and other pains. Imported.

(54) Maggots. Woo kuh chung.

Collected from water-closets, dried and powdered. A decoction is given to children suffering from overeating. Acts as a mild purgative. A filthy substance, the use of which is wholly foreign to the modern conception of sanitary medication. Not discovered.

(55) Manis Scales. Chuen shan kea.

Decocted and given in venereal diseases. Extensively imported.

(56) Mylabris cichorii. Pan maou. Chinese blistering beetle. Said to be very efficacious in the treatment of hydrophobia. Imported.

(57) Rabbits' Dung. Wang yue sha.

A decoction is used in the treatment of asthma. Imported.

(58) Rats' Dung. Leang tow tseen.

Dried and powdered. Applied to sores and ulcers. Imported.

(59) Rhinoceros Hide. Se pe. Sai pe.

Boiled into a jelly and given as a tonic. Imported.

(60) Rhinoceros Horns. Se keo. Sai kok.

Used as a strengthening tonic and as an antidote to poisons. Considered of great value. Also used as cups, cornucopias, etc. Planed or shaved up very fine and made into a decoction. Taken in small quantities. Imported.

(61) Rhinoceros Horn Shavings. Se keok peen.

Decocted or boiled to a jelly. Cooling and strengthening. Given to women in childbirth. Not seen.

(62) Scorpions. Chuan hee.

A variety of true scorpion, about two inches in length, dried and usually heavily salted. Coolies eat them raw and alive. Considered of great value as a diaphoretic in fevers and serious diseases. Given to teething children. Imported.

(63) Scouring Rush. Muh tsee tsaou.

A decoction is taken internally for weak and sore eyes. Imported.

(64) Sea Horse. Hae ma.

A decoction is used in female disorders. Said to be strengthening. Imported.

(65) Black Shark's Fins. Heh yu chih.

Used as food and as a tonic stimulant. Imported.

(66) White Shark's Fins. Peh yu chih.

Used as food and as a tonic stimulant. Imported in large quanitites.

(67) Sheep's Entrails. Yang chang.

The intestines of the sheep used in the manufacture of bowstrings; also used medicinally. Not seen.

(68) Shells. Wa lang tsze (cockle shells), Han lo kho (snail shells), Ho le kho (clam shells), Mow le kho (oyster shells).

Broken and decocted; also powdered. An ingredient in plasters for sores and ulcers. Imported.

(69) Dried Silkworms. Tsan chung and other names.

The larvae of the silk-moth, powdered and decocted; given to children for colds, fevers, etc. An infusion is used as an eye wash. Imported.

(70) Silkworm Pupa. Keang tsan.

Used medicinally, but just how was not explained.

(71) Green Snakes. Tsing seaou shay.

Small green snakes made into a decoction; taken twice daily in the treatment of skin eruptions, blotchy skin, etc. Not seen.

(72) Snakes' Skin. Dragon's Skin. Shay pe.

Skins shed by snakes. Thoroughly boiled and taken in gonorrhea. Imported in considerable quantities.

(73) Sparrow's Dung. Peh ting heang. White cloves.

Not supposed to be effective unless found standing in upright position on the ground. The decoction is taken to purify the blood and to hasten the suppuration of boils. A poultice made with pepper and wine is applied to sores and wounds. Not seen.

(74) Spiders. Che choo.

Eaten whole or beaten up in water; taken three times daily to relieve flatulency. Not seen.

(75) Tiger's Bone Wine. Tsaou Hoo Kuh.

Tiger's bones macerated in wine. Used as a strengthening tonic. In quart bottles packed in tin containers. Imported.

(76) Tiger's Bones. Hoo kuh.

The bones of the tiger, Leopordus brachyurus. Reduced to a powder mixed with hartshorn and plastron of tortoise, forming a tonic jelly; used in rheumatism and diseases of the bones and joints, in ague and

in general debility. A strengthening remedy in great repute among the Chinese. Never given to the women, as it is supposed to cause difficulty in childbirth. Bones of various animals imported in considerable quantity.

(77) Toads. Lae twan.

The toads are dried and made into a decoction which is taken internally in the treatment of elephantiasis and leprosy. Applied as an ointment or plaster to sores, ulcers, etc. The toads are also boiled alive in spirits, the liquor thus prepared being more active than the decoction made from the dried toads. Not seen.

(78) Toad Cakes. Chen soo.

The living toad is placed in a jar and poked with a stick; the enraged animal secrets a slimy substance which is wiped off, mixed with flour, made into cakes and dried. Also appears in powdered form. Another preparation is made by scraping the mucus from the warts of the living toad, mixing with flour, etc., as above. Taken as snuff. Very efficacious to restore in fainting and in fits. Not recognized.

(79) Tortoise Shell. Kwei pan.

The carapace and plastron of several species of tortoise and turtle are used medicinally. The shells are sometimes partially roasted. Imported in considerable quantity.

(80) Turtles' Heads. Kea yu tow.

The heads of the common fresh-water turtles are dried and powdered and applied to sores and ulcers. Not recognized in powders. Heads not seen thus far.

(81) Dried Human Urine. Jin chung peh.

This is the "fur" (a nasty mixture of urine, mould, bacteria, etc.) which collects in urinals after a time, when not cleaned. Decocted with ginseng and other vegetables substances. Boys' urine, not girls' is used. Said to neutralize the stimulating effects of ginseng and other strengthening medicines, possesses demulcent properties; used in lung troubles, to cure debility, as an eye lotion. Eggs boiled in boys' urine are considered very strengthening; eaten by the old and decrepit of both sexes. A favorite medicine. Not recognized thus far.

(82) Horned Viper.

The entire snake with entrails removed, dried on a bamboo frame. Use not determined. Imported in considerable numbers.

(83) Wasps' Nests. Foo fung kho. Fung fang.

Made into a decoction and given in consumption. Imported in considerable quantity.

(84) Earth Worms. Earth dragon. Kheuh shan.

Made into a decoction and taken in cases of gonorrhea. Perhaps not imported, unless in powdered form, mixed with other things. Not recognized.

* * * * * * * *

For dropsy due to anemia, Blaud's pill will be found a valuable medicament.

Shower Baths to be attached to any tub are now obtainable. To get the real value of a shower, personally or for a patient, turn on the water suddenly, as it is the shock that differentiates it beneficially from the ordinary tub bath.—N. Y. Med. Jour.

Dr. Landis thinks that the analysis of milk should be taught to boys and girls along with their chemistry work in the high schools, and that if this is done it will virtually place a bacteriologist and chemist in thousands of Cincinnati homes in the coming years, and the students will be able to ascertain for their parents, and later for themselves and their own familes, whether their milk supply is what it should be.—Lancet-Clinic.

Birth Returns.—The Chicago Woman's Club has called attention to laxity in enforcing the ordinance requiring the reporting of births within thirty days by physicians and midwives, and suggests that the health department should enforce the law in this respect. One of the daily papers commenting on this action says that only vigorous enforce of the ordinance and application of penalties for neglect to comply, without discrimination, will bring about a needed improvement in Chicago's vital statistics.

Figures Which Would Delight King George III.—The following table is taken from an article on "The Sane Fourth," in Journal of the A.M.A.:

BATTLES. Killed and Wounded.		CELEBRATIONS. Killed and Wounded.	
Lexington	83	July 4, 1903	4,449
Bunker Hill	449	July 4, 1904	4,169
Ft. Moultrie	37	July 4, 1905	5,176
White Plains	100	July 4, 1906	5,446
Ft. Washington	149	July 4, 1907	4,413
Monmouth	229	July 4, 1908	5,623
Cowpens	72	July 4, 1909	5,307
	1,119		34,603

If old King George III could rise from his grave and see the above figures, he might say something like this: "You rebels! You are getting your just deserts, and from your own hands. A just dispenastion of Providence!"

THE MEDICAL FORTNIGHTLY

Issued Tenth and Twenty-Fifth of Every Month

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EDITORIAL

A Missed Opportunity.

There are frequently occasions where it seems painfully evident to an outside observer that an opportunity to do just the right thing offers itself to individuals, business houses or corporations and is ignored or never seen by those who might profit by grasping it. These days of progress, of hurry and bustle, of putting material progress before all else seem to have little to do with sentiment; we have almost ceased to expect to find sentiment except within the narrow circle which each man makes to include those who are nearest and dearest to him. Yet, even in these days, there are many, many people to whom an evidence of appreciation for past service from an individual or a corporation comes as an evidence that we are not yet in so hopeless a state of indifference to others as many facts seem to indicate. The medical profession is frequently accused of being materialistic and destitute of sentiment; an accusation without material foundation, but one frequently heard, yet a matter of sentiment has wrung the hearts of a vast number of physicians in the middle West during the later weeks of the summer just past. We are all tremendously proud of our St. Louis educational institutions and their progress. We have watched them through years, and with them the men who have continuously contributed to their increasing greatness. The schools have progressed and the men have aged. But the men who have during the past thirty years been the moving, the vital factor in these institutions have not aged beyond usefulness, even though they have builded structures which are ready to consider them useless. Progress demanded a reorganization and realignment; we all appreciate the demand; we even recognized that there must be some retirements. But the men who have been the strength of these schools during long years, who have stood-by during adversity, who have given the best of their lives to the schools; if such men had ceased to be useful to the schools they might gracefully have been retired by being made emeritus professors. Appearances have it that several professors, advancd in years, but still above the average in ability, have been unceremoniously dropped, and that after so many years of service as to make the severing of connection hard beyond understanding. There are few great universities which have not a considerable number of names on their teaching list of men who are no longer active in service, men whose past activity has endeared them to their institution, to its alumni, and whose present-day students revere them because of the honor of achievement and the sancity of grey locks; their presence is a benediction to any institution. If Western institutions are to discard reverence for age, if long service is to have no recognition, future generations will be the sufferers. No matter how long the service, whether it be five or fifty years, if it has been good service no school can afford to ignore it. Progress does not demand forgetfulness of those courtesies which faithfulness should command.

We are proud of our great universities, they are becoming greater and more influential every day and it is good for St. Louis; but we voice the sentiment of a material body of physicians in expressing our profound regret that the chance to do a graceful thing was not discovered in this latest reorganization.

The Month of Vacation.

We have always advocated for the physician, as well as for the worker in every field, a definite period to be set aside for change and relaxation as a part of his schedule for each year. Vacation does not of necessity mean rest, it means, rather, change. We doubt if any physician will ever discover loss in the total of his year's accomplishment as a consequence of the month spent away from the daily routine. Among city physician the common expression has it that the man who takes a vacation "comes back to busier business than he left." He may come back unutterably weary, but it is a different kind of weariness and makes for energy at routine work. It has been said that the man who needs a vacation most is usually the man who has just had one, and this is frequently true if we are to understand by vacation simply rest. But the best rest for a busy physician is activity along other lines,

an utter getting away from medicine and patients for a time and forgetting all about medicine until the getting back into harness begins to look very attractive. Such a change makes for interest and energy, is a splendid post-graduate course, even though it may have been taken away from people and in the woods.

Probably no section of our country witnesses the proper development of the vacation idea as does that bordering on Lake Erie. We doubt if there is a ten miles on the lake front which has not a summer resort or camping-place, and these resorts are busy from early June to mid-September; they are the resorts of the home people, and it is an exception that is heralded in society columns. But for rest, recreation, bathing, boating, fishing and a considerable forgetfulness of the dress-suit they should be famed throughout America. It goes without saying that a portion of our "month" was spent at one of these resorts; we could wish nothing better vacation-wise for our readers than that he might have had just such an experience at the same or another place.

The Rehabilitation of the American Medical College.

Sectarian schools seem to be still holding their own in the East in so far as is apparent to the casual observer, but in the mid-west there is an apparent loss of interest in the "pathies" which is remarkable. The discontinuance of the only Homeopathic school in the city a year ago caused not the slightest comment; the American, which has long and actively voiced Eclecticism, opens on September 6th as a Regular school and leaves none but Regular schools in this vicinity.

Present day tolerance, had it existed in the earlier days of the last century, would have obviated the foundation of these sectarian schools. It is good to see that unity is coming, that it is near at hand. The question has been raised whether it is unity which the Regular school desires except it gain it by annihilation. We believe that we could find no informed person who would not acknowledge that the sectarian schools have served a definite purpose for good and have contributed not a little toward what is summed up as present-day progress. It is simply a case of there being no longer any real reason for their existence as independent bodies, the regular school offering, as it does, encouragement of investigation along any line which may attract the investigator and closing the door to none who seek light in the spirit of the true scientist.

We are expecting much of the new American. The announced faculty contains many familiar names, names of men known as educators and physicians of ability; the names of those lesser known includes several able and ambitious men who could not command the golden key which gains admission to university faculties, but who must, none the less, prove strong men in any teaching body. Under this faculty the American should assume an important place among the educational institutions of St. Louis and we believe that it will.

Chinese Drugs.

It has often been remarked of the Chinese that his opinions relative to beauty, palatability and comfort are so diametrically different from those of other peoples that this in itself is sufficient to explain why we find his character so difficult to understand, certainly those who have visited Chinese communities where he is allowed to live according to his own sweet(?) will are of a mind that he has strange tastes and finds his pleasure and amusement amidst most distressing odors, tastes and sounds. In another department we are reproducing an article from the Pacific Pharmacist on Chinese drugs imported into America; its reproduction has no scientific explanation and will hardly have been found desirable to those of our readers who live on the Pacicfi Coast where there is a Chinese problem and where the characteristics of the Chinese are already sufficiently understood, but we believe that the majority of our readers will find it of such interest as to have made its appearance well worth while.

The therapeutic vagaries suggested by these drugs; the mental attitude of those who instituted the use of some of them; the blind, sickening ingorance which must possess those who take them; how can these represent the height gained in the 20th century by the oldest and most populous nation on the globe? We may not approve the rehabilitation of witchcraft here in the United States in these later days, and in the guise of religion and a healing cult, but there is nothing so nauseatingly awful about it as there is in this which the Chinese nation offers after its centuries of undisturbed plodding along its own particular road to progress. This article makes us feel that the Chinese people should, in all gratitude, welcome and embrace Mrs.

Eddy's doctrine, anything is better than this, though there is about as little science in one as in the other.

The Segregation of Consumptives.

No less a person than Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf, than whom there is no greater American phthisiologist, has told us that the consumptive who is properly informed of the nature of his disease and who follows rational measures as laid down by our science is not a creature to be feared or avoided. With such information from such an authority we marvel somewhat that the profession is co-operating actively in and endeavor to secure legal segregation for consumptives. Of course there are consumptives and consumptives, just as healthy people differ. Some consumptives will intelligently adopt hygienic precautions and preventive measures, while others are filled with rebellion against fate and deliberately ignore any precaution which might be for their own good and the safety of the community, while still others are too ignorant not to be a menace. Undoubtedly the two latter classes should be kept under strict supervision and even segregated. But they are not the majority and why should those who are more than willing to give their very endeavor to elimination and who are no menace be made to cry "unclean," to wear the label of fear, and even be taken from all who are near and dear to them? It may be that the segregation plan contemplates a rational discrimination between the classes of consumptives but the utterances which are being delivered to the laity by those favoring segregation seem to indicate that it is the purpose to make the public believe that the only safe consumptive is one who is either segregated or in the class with the "good Indian." We must confess that Dr. Knopf's statement came to us as something of a surprise, but some study and thought on the subject have convinced us that he is absolutely right and that the commissions scattered over the country might well bear a little heavier on this particular phase of the question; a bit more argument with the afflicted on the necessity of preventive and curative precautions and less agitation for the abolition of harmless utensils which are a daily necessity and less talk of segregation, except as it concerns certain elements of those afflicted, would add to the usefulness of these bodies. This talk of segregation causes fear, of a kind undescribable, among those afflicted and their friends, as it develops to a degree of reality it will lead to concealment and will make to antagonism between the laity and our profession. There is also a question of legality involved which obtains in the matter of local segregation as practiced in any other disease, but that is not a question for discussion at this time. What we are now concerned in is this, shall the profession urge segregation of consumptive? Do conditions justify this except in a great minority of cases? Will it not if persisted in work great mental distress and much physical hardship on numerous patients where there is no justification in such an act? Will not the evil consequent to the scare which such a procedure entails vastly overbalance any good which may result?

The medical profession molds sentiment along these lines and it seems to be up to the profession to have well founded and defendable views on all phases of this question. If the well governed consumptive is harmless to his associates, and we have the highest authority that he is, he should not be needlessly harassed and the public should be taught that he is harmless. Phthisiophobia as it is at present being developed serves a good purpose, but there is unquestionably such a thing as immoderation even in so good a thing as this.

The medical press must be free, therefore the members are called "independent" editors.—Medical Sentinel.

Wellston Hospital.—The rapid strides made by our thriving little next-door-neighbor city, Wellston, have occasioned flattering comment which must be pleasing to those who have been instrumental in bringing about her latter day development. Except for an imaginary, but definite line, Wellston is a part of St. Louis and a beautiful part at that, but being outside she is having to develop an individuality. In medical ways this individuality is quite evident and the healthful location makes it appear probable that her institutions may prove active competitors of some of our metropolitan hospitals. The Wellston Hospital, which has been lately opened by Dr. E. A. Scharff, at 6200 Ella Avenue is one of the latest evidences of Wellston's progress. This institution is equipped with every modern convenience and under splendid medical management, and has no less a person than Miss M. E. Hansworth as superintendent of nurses, all of which speaks for great success.

SOCIETY PROCEEDINGS

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE MISSOURI VALLEY.

The annual meeting of this society at Council Bluffs was an event of profit and pleasure to those participating in the excellent program presented. Nearly all the essayists were in attendance, and the papers were not only of a most interesting nature, but so evenly divided between surgery and medicine as to be of great value to the general practitioner. The oration in Surgery was given by Dr. Norvelle Wallace Sharpe, of St. Louis, who presented a most entertaining lecture on fractures of the femur, illustrated by skiagraphs and drawings.

Dr. Geo. Howard Hoxie, of Kansas City, delivered the address in Medicine. His subject, "Arthritis," was a most important one, in that the doctor proposed a new classification and nomenclature, for the vague and indefinite classification which has heretofore been followed in this much-discussed class of diseases.

The Presidential address by Dr. A. B. Somers, comprised a review of the progress in Obstetrics, evincing a thorough knowledge of this subject, and the modern conception of management of the lying-in patient.

The society placed itself on record as endorsing the Owen Public Health bill, as well as condemning the use of all chemical preservatives in foodstuffs.

The members were entertained on Thursday evening by a "Smoker" at the Grand Hotel.

A change in the by-laws was effected, giving Omaha and Council Bluffs the annual meeting, alternately.

Officers elected:

President, Dr. Donald Macrae, Council Bluffs.

First Vice-President, Dr. J. M. Bell, St. Joseph.

Second Vice-President, Dr. J. M. Banister, Omaha.

Treasurer, Dr. Thos. B. Lacey, Council Bluffs.

Secretary, Dr. Chas. Wood Fassett, St. Joseph.

St. Joseph was selected as the place for next meeting, March, 1911.

In gastric catarrh the upper bowel should be kept unloaded by calomel gr. ¼, and sodii bicarb, gr. ij, taken every night, and sodium phosphate, a dram, night and morning.

AMERICAN PROCTOLOGIC SOCIETY.

Twelfth Annual Meeting, held at St. Louis, Mo., June 6 and 7, 1910.

(Continued from page 343.)

Villous Tumor of the Rectum.—By T. Chittenden Hill, M.D., of Boston, Mass.—The author stated that a villous tumor of the rectum is very uncommon and but few cases have been recorded in current literature. B. Merrill Ricketts reported a case before this society in 1907, and states that but "sixty-two cases have been reported, nine of which have been by six American authors." Since then I have been able to find but one case reported by Vautrin (L' Review de la Gynecologia). His article is the most accurate and painstaking observation to be found on the subject.

It is rather difficult to arrive at any conclusion as to their relative frequency by studying the reported cases or by searching hospital reports, as these borderline tumors are generally very loosely classified. Probably the most accurate data at our disposal may be had from St. Marks Rectal Hospital, London, in which twenty-five villous tumors are tabulated among 42,343 patients with rectal ailments.

The chief point of interest about these tumors is that a certain percentage of them show a marked tendency to undergo malignant degeneration. From the histories of the 13 cases cited by Ricketts, including one of his own, we learn that three recurred and three did not. Those with a broad base, later became malignant, while those with a pedicle did not. Of the other seven cases no mention was made as to the final outcome.

Goodsall and Miles have had 12 cases—8 in men and 4 in women, of which number two utlimately became carcinomatous.

From careful study of these cases and several others the author believes that if there is a distinct pedicle without infiltration of the adjacent mucous membrane, tumors of this type are generally benign and if completely removed by ligation, or otherwise, there is but little likelihood of their recurring. On the other hand, if the base is broad, whether there be induration or not, a total extirpation of the rectum should be advised.

Another point of some interest borne out by a study of these cases is that the longer the condition has existed the less likely is it that the growth will prove malignant. The case now reported seems to bear out this statement.

Mrs. M., forty years of age, was referred by Dr. J.H. Vaugn of Everett, Mass., Jan.

5., 1907. She was well-nourished, weight about normal, but anemic, with sallow complexion. Had had indigestion for years but in other respects was in good health. For the past six years had noticed small rectal hemorrhages. During the year previous the hemorrhages had become more profuse and the mass was always protruded at the anus during defecation and even after slight exertion when walking.

She had to go to the toilet several times during the day and to get up two or three times at night, when she would pass one-half cupful of blood-stained mucous; also considerable mucous would at times escape with flatus. For two months, tenesmus had been present nearly all the time. She did not complain of anal or sacral pain.

Rectal Examination.—Sphincters, perianal skin and anal canal, were perfectly normal. In the rectum was felt a slippery growth with a band-like pedicle one inch wide by one-half inch thick, attached obliquely with the long axis of the rectum. By careful manipulation the writer was able to bring outside the anal orifice, a lobulated cauliflower-like mass, the size and shape of a large English walnut, from which there was a gentle oozing of blood while it was held outside by the sphincters.

Operation January 8th, 1907. The sphincters were stretched after infiltration with one quarter of 1 per cent cocaine solution and the mass drawn down with the finger and the pedicle infiltrated and clamped about half an inch from the margin of the tumor.

The pedicle was then transfixed on the proximal side of the clamp and ligated with pagenstechere No. 5 in three sections and the pedicle cut away on the distal side. An ounce of bloody mucous escaped from the anus during the dilation.

The operation was easily performed and with but little discomfort to the patient under local anesthesia.

Over three years have now elapsed since the case was operated upon and as yet there is no sign of recurrence.

The report of Dr. Louis Hoag upon specimen, January 8,1907, was as follows: 'Pedunculated cauliflower tumor of a flattened spheroidal form of pale brownish red color and 4x3½cm. in size.

Surface quite regularly broken by deep narrow pits and furrows between and among hundreds of small hemispherical ovoid and spindle-shaped lobules ranging from 1 to 3 mm. in diameter. Such are soft, juicy, but necrotic and of uniform pale brownish red color. Surface always smooth and glistening. Irregularly distributed are deeper clefts outlining pryamidal divisions of the tumor, each bearing upon its base, which is directed outward, a number of the lobules just described.

Toward the periphery of the cross-section of the tumor the lobules are of uniform soft consistency and of uniform pale-brown red color. Centrally the pale pedicles, which are about 4 mm. in diameter, enter the tumor at a sort of hilus and its white fibrous tissue bearing numerous small blood-vessels spread out to be finally lost in the similar tissue of the apices of the various pyramidal divisions of the tumor."

Significance of Rectal Hemorrhage.—(By Louis J. Krouse,M.D., of Cincinnati,Ohio.)—Who called the attention of the profession to the importance of making a more careful examination of every case where there is bleeding from the rectum. He stated that rectal hemorrhage must not be considered conclusive of the existence of piles. Many other diseases besides piles are accompanied with bleeding. He laid great stress on the importance of diagnosing malignancy in its early stage so as to give the patient a better chance of recovery. Many cases of malignant disease of the rectum, whose only symptom is hemorrhage have been overlooked and the patient sacrificed which would not have occurred had the family physician insisted upon a local examination thereby diagnosing the disease in its incipiency before it had gone beyond the operable stage. He further stated that every patient is entitled to a thorough examination; and physicians are in duty bound to use all the means at their command to accomplish it. As Murray very aptly expressed himself "Thus a case that today would be operable and a cure result, if diagnosed, would be inoperable in six months or a year and death result." The author reported numerous cases where a correct diagnosis had not been made on account of the negligence of the family physician. Some had been operated upon for bleeding piles which subsequently turned out to be cancer. He concluded his article with the statement "that earlier recognition of malignancy would add materially to the future welfare of the patient which can be obtained by surgical measures, and it therefore, behooves the general practitioner to be on his guard and examine carefully every case of bleeding so as to detect malignancy in its incipient stage."

Ana-Rectal Affections of Infancy and Childhood.—(By A. J. Zobel, M. D., San Francisco, Cal.)—This paper briefly described those ano-rectal affections of infancy

and childhood which may appear on one's day work or in consultation practice.

From the first hour after birth the ano-rectal region is of vast importance. At that time malformations may be determined and proper relief promptly afforded.

The various malformations were enumerated and briefly described. Some of these abnormalities pass unnoticed throughout a long life, but others are the source of great discomfort and distress.

Mention was made that while hemorrhoids are common in adults the possibility of their presence in the young is rarely considered. Yet they may appear in children of tender years. The various causes for hemorrhoids in the young were reviewed in his paper.

Malignant growths of the rectum while rare are occasionally met with. Cases were quoted where the disease was found in children as young as five years of age.

Benign growths are more common. Adenoma is the most frequent of these. They are often diagnosed as internal hemorrhoids, and like them may become strangulated. They may exist for some time and attain quite a size without producing any symptoms until strangulation occurs.

Fissure of the anus is believed by the writer to be present more often than it is usually diagnosed. It may cause severe crying in nurslings. May cause a reflex symptom to appear which for a time may baffle the diagnostician. Some of these may resemble coxalgia. The incautious and improper introduction of sryinge nozzles and thermometers into the anal canal frequently cause fissures. Other causes were also mentioned.

Especial stress was laid on the subject of pruritus ani in children. The writer believing it to be a very frequent source of great discomfort and torment to the little ones. It is very rarely suspected or diagnosed and he believes that it accounts for much of that peevishness in these little ones for which no cause can usually be assigned. The child is seen to rub his anal region saying, "It hurts." Does not complain of itching. Seems to misinterpret the sensation. He has found superficial lesions of the anal mucous membrane in these cases, and as the symptoms disappeared when local treatment was instituted he feels assured that these were the cause of the trouble.

Fistulo-in-ano is met with occasionally in children and even in nurslings. While it may, be tubercular it may also be of a congenital nature.

Ischio-rectal abscesses are met with even in early infancy. When incised they rarely end in fistula.

Prolapse of the mucous membrane of the anus and rectum is a common condition during the second and third years of life. Long continued tight binding in babyhood may be the starting point. Diarrhea is the most common antecedent. Anything that induces prolonged and severe straining at stool may be a cause. Some of these causes were mentioned. The varieties and causes of proctitis were also dwelt upon. Proctitis is often taken for ordinary catarrhal diarrhea due to improper feeding. It is advised that when a gonorrhea of the genital tract exists in children that a secondary infection of the ano-rectal region should always be considered.

It is hoped that this reminder that infants and children have ano-rectal troubles, as well as adults, will lead to more thought being given in this direction, and that it will bear fruit in bringing relief to some of these little sufferers.

(To be continued)

A New Preparation for Hay Fever.—Dr. J. E. Alberts, of The Hague, has directed the attention of the medical profession to a new combination which is astringent and locally anesthetic in effect, but which is non-toxic and devoid of the ill-effects of cocaine. The new combination contains one part to twenty thousand (1:20,000) of adrenalin chloride and ten per cent of para-amido-ethyl benzoate, made up into a bland ointment, to which has been given the name of anesthone cream. When applied to the mucous membrane of the nares anesthone cream has a persistent anesthetic effect which affords marked relief in hay fever. Inasmuch as para-amido-thyl-benzoate is only slightly soluble in aqueous fluids, its anesthetic action is prolonged. It does not have the poisonous effect of cocaine upon the protoplasmic element of cells, nor does it depress the heart. Furthermore, there is a tendency to "habit" acquirement. In a tabulated series of cases collected by the Department of Experimental Medicine of Parke, Davis & Company a very large proportion were very much benefited. Anesthone cream is supplied in a collapsible tube with an elongated nozzle. A portion of the cream about the size of a pea is to be applied to the nasal mucosa three or four times a day, or more frequently if necessary, including the time of arising in the morning, and retiring at night.—Therapeutic Notes.

TO THE FRONT SAINT LOUIS

THE MEDICAL FORTNIGHTLY

A Cosmopolitan Biweekly for the General Practitioner

The Medical Fortnightly is devoted to the progress of the Practice and Science of Medicine and Surgery. Its aim is to present topics of interest and importance to physicians, and to this end, in addition to a well-selected corps of Department Editors, it has secured correspondents in the leading medical centers of Europe and America. Contributions of a scentific nature, and original in character, solicited. News of Societies, and of interesting medical topics, cordially invited.

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Contributions and books for review should be addressed to the Managing Editor, 319 and 320 Century Building, St. Louis, Mo.

MEDICAL MISCELLANY

The Oberlin Association of St. Louis.—An association of graduates and former students of Oberlin, members of their immediate families and friends of the college has been regularly formed in St. Louis.

To Fight Pellagra in Austria.—According to press dispatches pellagra is prevalent in Austria, and heroic methods are being taken to stamp out the disease. In order to stop the use of infected corn meal, which is thought to be responsible for the outbreak, the Austrian Government has constructed six modern steam rye bakeries in the Southern Tyrol, which are under the direct supervision of the government of the province. The city governments of this section also rigidly supervise and inspect all private bakeries.

Clothes that have been filled with the odor of iodoform can be renovated by rinsing them in tar water.

The Medical Inspection of Schools in Pittsburgh.—Thirty physicians and ten nurses will be appointed by the Department of Health of Pittsburgh, to carry out the work of medical inspection in the schools. The inspections are to be begun as soon as the public schools are opened.

Pellagra in Illinois.—The Surgeon General of the Army has detailed two medical officers to assist the commission appointed by the Governor of Illinois some months ago to investigate an outbreak of pellagra in Peoria. This action was taken at the request of the governor. The officers assigned to the task are Captain Joseph F. Siler and Captain Henry J. Nicholls of the Medical Corps of the army.

Plague Precautions.—During one week recently there were examined for possible plague infection at the Federal laboratory at San Francisco and the branch laboratories at Oakland and Los Angeles, Cal., animals as follows: Squirrels 3,538, gophers 5, rabbits 46, and rats 2,318. The rats were identified as follows: Mus norvegicus, 193, Mus rattus 79, Mus musculus 194, Mus alexandrinus 72. In connection with the making of a squirrel free zone around the cities on San Francisco Bay 725 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended July 30, 1910.

Cholera in Russia.—One week's cholera record for Russia shows 23,944 new cases of cholera and 10,723 deaths, bringing the total number of cases in Russia this year to 112,985, of these 50,287 having died, the mortality percentage being 44.5. The figures are those furnished by the sanitary bureau, covering the week from August 7 to August 13 inclusive, and are, therefore, fully official. Reports from Red Cross sources indicate that the actual figures are somewhat greater, and it is a practical impossibiilty to register every case in an epidemic of such proportions.

Mammary Inflammation.—

Ungt. belladonnae 3j
Ungt. hydrargyri.....
Ichthyoli.....aa 3iv
Cerati plumbi subacetatis.....3j

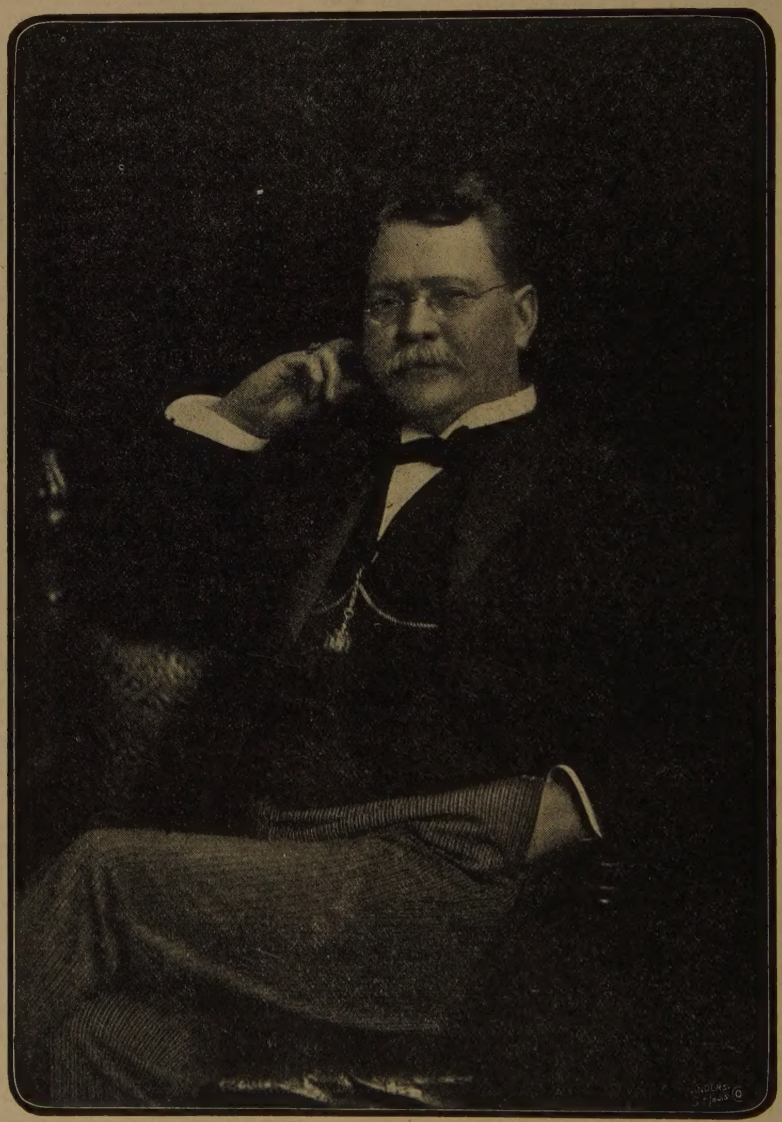
M. Sig.: Apply to breasts freely and employ to right breast binder.—Med. News Formulary.

Subscribe for the Medical Fortnightly.

Several State Boards of Health have issued orders forbidding the use of public drinking cups on railway trains, in railroad stations, and in the public school buildings; one of these States is Wisconsin.

Dr. Alexander Hugh Ferguson, of Chicago, was elected president of the Chicago Medical Society at its last annual meeting, in a keenly contested election. Dr. Ferguson is fitted in an admirable manner to govern this society which is an immense body of men strong in their profession.

The Kankakee (Illinois) State Hospital Medical Society, the membership of which is composed of the medical staff members of the Kankakee State Hospital and Psychopathic Hospital, was organized in June. The officers are: Dr. Frank Parsons Norbury, president; Dr. Chas. F. Read, vice-president; Dr. W. F. Lorenz, secretary and treasurer. Dr. Douglas Singer was delegated to perfect organization of the other state hospitals in order that a state association may be formed. Similar societies have been formed at Peoria and Jacksonville hospitals.



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